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N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

09/842,778

Applicant Filed

Atsushi ITO et al. April 27, 2001

TC/A.U.

2875

Examiner

Peter J. Macchiarolo

Docket No.

1945-347

Customer No.

06449

Confirmation No.

3837

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 15, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 5 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 11 of this paper.